

REMARKS/ARGUEMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 are presently active. Claim 1, has been presently amended. Claims 9-11 have been added. No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 4 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Weaver (US Pat. Appl. Pub. No. 20030085652). Claims 2 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weaver. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weaver in view of Cok et al. (US Pat. Appl. Pub. No. 20040004988). Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weaver in view of Kimura (JP 2003272855).

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Macchiarolo for allowing an interview on November 21, 2008 to discuss this matter. The discussions of the interview were substantially summarized on the Interview Summary Sheet which indicated that the proposed claim amendments directed to a reflecting layer having a single optical path length for light reflection would overcome the cited art to Weaver.

During the interview, the Examiner brought to Applicants' representatives attention U.S. Pat. No. 7,180,238. The Examiner indicated that this reference (or a similar reference) would need to be considered after the claim amendments discussed were officially filed.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of Claim 1, this claim has been amended to clarify the feature of a single optical path length for reflected light. The multilayer mirrors of Weaver, associated in the Office Action with the first and second reflecting layers of Claim 1, contain multiple reflecting layers. Fig. 4 of Weaver, cited in the Office Action, specifically shows three pairs of layers in each quarter wave stack and states that “[p]referrably, 2 to 10 (or more) of these layers are used.” See numbered paragraph 0050 of

Weaver. Therefore, Weaver relies on multiple layers of reflecting material separated by varying thicknesses to provide multiple path lengths for light reflected within the device.

However, Claim 1 defines the feature of a single optical path length for the light reflected within the device. This is accomplished using single layer reflective surfaces rather than multilayer mirrors on each end of the optical cavity formed by the first transparent electrode, the organic emitting layer, and the second transparent electrode. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom patentably define over Weaver.

The deficiencies of Weaver are not overcome by the other applied art. Thus Claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom patentably defined over the applied art.

Moreover, regarding Claim 4, the Office Action states that “Weaver discloses in at least paragraph 55 an average thickness of all layers interposed between the first light reflecting layer and the second light reflecting layer is 100 to 1000 nm.” Paragraph 55 of Weaver discusses the layers of planarizing material and high-density material within a quarter wave stack but makes no reference to the thickness of layers interposed between the respective quarter wave stacks. No mention of the claimed range of average thickness between the first and second reflecting layers was found within paragraph 55 or anywhere else in the Weaver specification. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claim 4 should be withdrawn on this basis as well as its dependence on Claim 1

New Claim 11 defines features of Applicants’ invention which are similar to Claim 1. Hence, for similar reasons stated with regard to Claim 1, Claim 11 should be allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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